

(28.) \$285,000 for ARTKade; Idaho Falls Arts Council

(29.) \$143,000 for Life skills instructions programs for at-risk youth; Life's Kitchen Inc.

(30.) \$333,000 for Idaho Oral Health Institute; Idaho State University

(31.) \$285,000 for The Discovery Center of Idaho exhibits and outreach; Discovery Center of Idaho

(32.) \$285,000 for College of Southern Idaho Pro-Tech Training Program; College of Southern Idaho

(33.) \$285,000 for Children's Health Services Expansion; St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Ltd

(34.) \$381,000 for Madison County Memorial Hospital Construction and Renovation Project; Madison County Memorial Hospital

(35.) \$190,000 for Idaho SySTEMic Solution program; Boise State University

(36.) \$285,000 for Custer County to purchase middle school building

(37.) \$1,961,750 for the City of Rocks Back Country Byway

(38.) \$4,845,000 for the Idaho Transit Coalition for Buses and Bus Facilities

(39.) \$475,000 for I-84 Broadway Avenue to Gowen Road Widening

(40.) \$475,000 for the Treasure Valley Transit Facilities

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 1105, OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, today we come to the House chamber to consider a package of the remaining fiscal year 2009 appropriations bills. We are five months late in acting on these bills, and for no good reason.

The net effect of this delay is two-fold: One, the delay has prevented a number of Federal programs from making necessary mission changes simply because those programs have been frozen in-place under the CR.

Number two, the \$410 billion contained in this bill represents annual spending increases for hundreds of programs. These increases are well above necessary levels, especially given that we just passed a stimulus bill that carried \$301 billion in new discretionary spending—much of which is for the same programs contained in this omnibus measure, and that we fund every year in the annual process.

In short, many of the programs in this package will get a double dose of funding. Unfortunately, this extra dose will be built into future spending, and that's not fair to the American taxpayer—why, because it locks in trillion dollar deficits.

Apart from the problems with the spending totals in this package, we are allowing a laundry list of policy issues to pass through Congress without any public scrutiny.

A number of these policy issues are troubling to many of us. For example, the omnibus eliminates the "Reading First" Program within the Department of Education. I don't remember debating this issue in the stunted '09 process.

The "Reading First" Program was widely supported for its emphasis on raising reading levels, particularly among low-income children. Just yesterday, I met with an elementary school principal from Iowa who praised the program as one which has made a difference to lots of children in my State.

Another policy change, done through a funding reduction, is a de-emphasis on Yucca Mountain. At a time when we need to be looking at all forms of energy, why would we want to halt construction and design work at Yucca since nuclear waste storage is a big issue. At a minimum, we should have had a debate on this subject.

In the end, this entire process has been a giant abdication of our responsibilities in this body, representing a shameful performance. Our constituents deserve better than the bill before us represents.

I hope that for the FY 2010 funding cycle, the majority will re-discover the value of regular order and transparency. In this way, we can add a little more credibility to the process, and the reputation of this House.

JULIE ROGERS "GIFT OF LIFE"
PROGRAM AND THEIR "SPIRIT
OF LOVE" AWARD WINNERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to pay tribute to the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program and the recipients of their "Spirit of Love" awards for their commitment to the fight against cancer and dedication to assisting the medically underserved in Southeast Texas.

The Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program, established in 1994 by Regina Rogers, began as a tribute to her mother, a breast cancer survivor. Originally providing free mammograms to women, shortly afterwards they expanded to prostate screenings for men and cancer education outreach. Since then, they have provided over 13,500 mammograms and over 4,500 prostate screenings while conducting over 450 educational presentations. The Program has helped extend the lives of more than 135 people who found cancer after one of their screenings. They grew from their humble beginnings into one of the largest cancer screening and awareness organizations of its type in Texas.

Each year at their annual board meeting, the "Gift of Life" Program presents both an individual and corporate "Spirit of Love" Awards to honor those that have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help fight cancer and spread awareness. This year, the late Todd Christopher was awarded the Julie Rogers "Spirit of Love" Award, while the TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery was presented with the Corporate "Spirit of Love" Award. Both deserve the recognition for their dedication and commitment to the community.

Todd Christopher was born and raised in Beaumont, Texas. After graduating from Texas A&M University, Todd moved back home with an entrepreneur spirit and co-founded four businesses, bringing hundreds of jobs to the area. He served on a number of boards across the area and as co-chairman of

the Julie and Ben Rogers Cancer Foundation Drive. He somehow found enough time to dedicate a large part of his life to his wife Gerry and children Clayton and Gary. He has coached their sports teams and supported their scholastic endeavors. Cancer tragically cut Todd's life short in 2008 but his spirit lives on. The work he did for Southeast Texas will last forever.

The TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery was recognized for exhibiting outstanding community leadership and reducing health disparities among Southeast Texans. The refinery, built in 1936 and acquired by the French company TOTAL in 1973, has taken a proactive role in fighting cancer. Through their annual sponsorship of "Gift of Life" breast and prostate cancer initiatives, they have provided over 600 women and more than 1,800 men with free mammograms and prostate screenings. They alone have helped extend the lives of seven women and nine men whose cancer was detected at "Gift of Life" screenings. They have also made a commitment to Southeast Texas by embarking on a \$2.2 billion dollar expansion of their refinery, increasing their refining capacity and adding 60 new full time jobs.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas I would like to thank the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program, the family of Todd Christopher, and the TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery for all their work in fighting cancer and spreading awareness. Their efforts have made Southeast Texas a better place to live and work.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as a part of H.R. 1105, The Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: California State University Agricultural Research Initiative

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 401 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802-094210

Description of Request: I have secured \$693,000 for the ARI. The Agriculture Research Initiatives (ARI) provides significant benefits to consumers as well as agriculture-related industries. Faculty and research scientists develop solutions for challenges that result in public confidence in food safety, agricultural research and production systems; regional and statewide economic development; and bring agricultural, environmental, and consumer benefits in the process. ARI funding priority will be given to science and best management issues related to climate change, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and carbon sequestering; food safety and security; water quality, infrastructure, and conveyance; and public health and welfare.